

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS WITH AMENDEMNTS

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method for editing performance data using a computer system having a display, said method~~performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display,~~ comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, ~~wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution related data can be attached to each of the layers~~ wherein each of said plurality of layers is assigned to a different type of articulation to be added to a musical tone to be generated based on the performance data;

providing an instruction to change a display location of at least one of the layers; and
controlling the computer system to change the display location of the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction; and

attaching an execution icon at a prescribed position onto one of said plurality of layers that is displayed on the screen of the display, wherein said attached icon represents execution-related data for adding, to the musical tone to be generated, a predetermined type of articulation to which said one of said plurality of layers is assigned,

wherein said step of attaching the execution icon causes the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~A performance data editing~~ The method according to claim 4 wherein the plurality of layers are vertically arranged on the screen, while the instruction designates a change of the display location of the layer within vertical arrangement of the layers.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~A performance data editing~~ The method according to claim 4 wherein the instruction to change the display location of the layer is given by a command which is selected by a user of the computer system on the screen of the display.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~A performance data editing~~ The method according to claim 4 wherein the display location of the layer is changed by effecting drag-and-drop operations with a mouse on a prescribed portion of the layer.

Claims 8-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a first controller for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, ~~wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution related data can be attached to each of the layers wherein each of said plurality of layers is assigned to a different type of articulation to be added to a musical tone to be generated based on the performance data;~~

an instructor for instructing at least one of the layers to change its display location on the screen; and

a second controller for changing the display location of the at least one of the layers being instructed;

a graphical icon controller for attaching an execution icon at a prescribed position onto one of said plurality of layers that is displayed on the screen of the display, wherein said attached icon represents execution-related data for adding, to the musical tone to be generated, a predetermined type of articulation to which said one of said plurality of layers is assigned; and

a third controller for causing the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.

Claims 17-21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (currently amended): A machine-readable media ~~storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing~~ containing a computer program for editing performance data using a computer system having a display, said method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein each of said plurality of layers is assigned to a different type of articulation to be added to a musical tone to be generated based on the performance data ~~wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;~~

providing an instruction to change a display location of at least one of the layers; and

controlling the computer system to change the display location of the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction; and

attaching an execution icon at a prescribed position onto one of said plurality of layers that is displayed on the screen of the display, wherein said attached icon represents execution-related data for adding, to the musical tone to be generated, a predetermined type of articulation to which said one of said plurality of layers is assigned,

wherein said step of attaching the execution icon causes the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.

Claims 23-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (currently amended): The ~~performance data editing~~ method according to claim 4, wherein one or plural execution icons are displayed in the layer in a direction from the left to the right on the display screen in accordance with progress of the performance data.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The ~~performance data editing~~ method according to claim 4, wherein each layer is displayed as an execution icon layer corresponding to the execution-related data, and

wherein the execution icon layer contains at least one of a tempo icon layer, a dynamics icon layer, a joint icon layer, a modulation icon layer, an accent icon layer, an attack icon layer, and a release icon layer.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (previously presented): The performance data editing method according to claim 4, wherein when the execution icon attached to the layer is edited, edited content is reflected onto the performance data.

Claim 30 (new): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:
means for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein each of said plurality of layers is assigned to a different type of articulation to be added to a musical tone to be generated based on the performance data;
means for instructing at least one of the layers to change its display location on the screen;
means for changing the display location of the at least one of the layers being instructed;
means for attaching an execution icon at a prescribed position onto one of said plurality of layers that is displayed on the screen of the display, wherein said attached icon represents execution-related data for adding, to the musical tone to be generated, a predetermined type of articulation to which said one of said plurality of layers is assigned; and
means for causing the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.